

HOLIDAY HOMEWORK – VCE ENGLISH UNIT 3 2011

You are required to do **at least** 10 hours of homework for English over the holidays.

VCE English holiday homework will be handed out during the changeover period and then due in the first week back in term one. It is a requirement of the course and failure to submit this work will result in detentions for students until the work is completed. It is your responsibility to complete all of this work and then hand it in on time.

TASK ONE - ISSUES ANALYSIS

Your first lessons in the orientation period are revising and adding to what you already know about how to analyse persuasive media texts. You will further your understanding of this by doing the following holiday homework:

Collect six persuasive texts from a variety of media and on a variety of issues. These must be persuasive, and so you should be looking for editorials, letters to the editor and opinion pieces. You can choose these from print media, such as newspaper articles and magazine articles as well as online sources such as media websites and opinion forums.

Write a brief summary of each article, including the issue, the contention, and any background information that you may have about the issue.

Show the persuasive techniques used in the articles including the tone and any appeals that you can recognise.

Write down the ways in which these persuasive techniques work on the audience. This information should be recorded in a table including the headings below.

ARTICLE	TECHNIQUE	TECHNIQUE	APPEAL	TOPE	EFFECT ON AUDIENCE
Name and publication details	Emotive Language – e.g. 'angry', 'ridiculous'	Hyperbole- e.g. 'millions affected by this'	Hip Pocket Nerve – 'this will cost us all money'	Sarcastic – 'he is clearly intelligent'	Makes the reader feel that the proposal is ridiculous and they should feel foolish siding with the opposition.

TEXT ACTIVITIES OVERLEAF

TASK TWO-TEXT PREPARATION

The first two texts studied this year are Geraldine Brooks' novel ***The Year of Wonders: A Journal of the Plague*** and Robert Drewe's autobiographical memoir '**The Shark Net**'. The Drewe text is to be used for Area of Study 2 – Creating and Presenting and we are looking at it through the Context 'Whose Reality?'.

You must read these texts and complete the following activities:

The Shark Net – Robert Drewe

SECTION 1

Give a brief description of the following places and people:

Perth (1960s)	Rottnest Island	Robert	Dot/Dorothy
Royce/Roy	Ruth	Eric Cooke	Saturday Night Boy

Give a brief overview of the main themes in the memoir, covering the following:

Innocence	Family	Adolescence
Growing up	Versions of reality	Guilt

Record notes on each section of the text. Give an overview of the main events and any key ideas about reality that you identify.

SECTION 2 – '*Year of Wonders: A Journal of the Plague Year*' – Geraldine Brooks

- Read *Year of Wonders* fully and then write a short (500 words) synopsis of the plot.
- Create a list of all of the major characters and a short description of each character.
- Identify at least two themes in the novel and give short examples from the text that highlight each of these themes.
- Create a quote bank for each main character that reflects their development across the narrative.
- N.B. You may wish to annotate and/or highlight your book as you read so that you are able to easily find key points and themes.